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EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/941,239	SEARS, MICHAEL E.
	Examiner Michael Van Handel	Art Unit 2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 July 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2,5-22,25-42 and 45-70 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1, 2, 5-22, 25-42, 45-70 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Miscellaneous

1. The examiner would initially like to apologize for the confusion regarding the Bruno et al. reference in the previous Office Action. The examiner notes that the reference relied on in the previous Office Action and in the Office Action below is Bruno et al. (US 5,710,591).

Response to Amendment

1. This action is responsive to an Amendment filed 7/02/2007. Claims **1, 2, 5-22, 25-42, 45-70** are pending. Claims **1, 8, 21, 28, 41, 48, 61-64** are amended. Claims **3, 4, 23, 24, 43, 44** are canceled. Claims **65-70** are new. The examiner hereby withdraws the objections to claims **8, 28, 48** in light of the amendment.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments regarding claims **1, 21, 41, and 61-64**, filed 7/02/2007 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims **1, 21, 41, and 61-64**, the applicant argues that Bruno et al. contains no disclosure regarding storing a video signal in response to a determination being made that a connected device is not capable of receiving video signals. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Bruno et al. discloses a method and apparatus for recording and indexing video, audio and data information exchanged during a multimedia conference. A workstation and/or participant-identifying signal generated by a multipoint control unit is stored, together or in correspondence

with the audio signal and video information, for subsequent ready retrieval of the stored multimedia information (see Abstract & col. 5, l. 33-40). Bruno et al. further discloses that the MCU is capable of accommodating an additional conferee participating via a conventional, voice-only telephone 34 connected to the MCU 26 through audio add-on line 36. Although the telephone participant will have no video interaction with the other participants of the conference, once the telephone participant is identified to the MCU a still image or photograph of that added participant may be retrieved from a database and displayed on the other participants' screens 14 when the telephone participant is speaking (col. 9, l. 23-33). The examiner interprets identifying a telephone participant as "determining that the second device is not capable of displaying video signals," as currently claimed. As noted by the applicant, any signals recorded in the system of Bruno et al. are recorded regardless of whether any of the participants have non-video-enable communication devices. As such, the examiner concludes that video will continue to be recorded in response to this identification and that Bruno et al. meets the limitation of "in response to determining that the second device is not capable of displaying the captured video signals, caching the captured video signals for subsequent display after the two-way audio communication is concluded," as currently claimed.

Claim Objections

1. Claims 5-7, 25-27, 45-47, 69, 70 are objected to, because of the following informalities:

Referring to claims 5-7, the examiner notes that the phrase "the locator link" lacks antecedent basis. The examiner recommends that the claims be amended to depend from claim 66.

Referring to claims **25-27**, the examiner notes that the phrase “the locator link” lacks antecedent basis. The examiner recommends that the claims be amended to depend from claim 68.

Referring to claims **45-47**, the examiner notes that the phrase “the locator link” lacks antecedent basis. The examiner recommends that the claims be amended to depend from claim 70.

Referring to claims **69** and **70**, the examiner notes that the preambles of claims 69 and 70 differ from the preamble of claim 41, from which they depend. The examiner recommends that the claims be amended to recite “the computer-readable storage medium of ...”

The examiner interprets the claims in the Office Action below as though the recommended changes have been made.

Appropriate correction is required.

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
2. The amendment filed 7/02/2007 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a), because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material, which is not supported by the original disclosure, is as follows: In another alternative implementation, caching of the video signals 502 may occur at the non-video-enabled device.

The examiner notes that “[w]here subject matter not shown in the drawing or described in the description is claimed in the application *as filed*, and such original claim itself constitutes

clear disclosure of this subject matter, then the claim should be treated on its merits" (italicized for emphasis)(MPEP 608.01(l)). The examiner notes that claims **20**, **40**, and **60**, are dependent on amended claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively and are no longer original claims, as filed.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims **20**, **40**, and **60** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 20, 40, and 60, being dependent on amended claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, are no longer original claims and lack written support in the disclosure. The applicant's specification states that the caching may be performed in a server in an intermediate node linking the two devices or within the video-enabled device (p. 1, paragraph 19; p. 5, paragraphs 70, 72; & p. 6, paragraph 82). For the purposes of art evaluation, the examiner shall interpret the second device as including the caching component of the broadcast center 110, the cellular telephone 124, and the network connections between the two. This interpretation is used in addressing claims 20, 40, and 60 in the Office Action below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 6-12, 14-22, 26-32, 34-42, 46-52, 54-60, 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bruno et al. (US 5,710,591).

Referring to claims 1, 21, 41, and 63, Bruno et al. discloses a method/system/computer-readable medium for enabling communication between video-enabled and non-video-enabled communication devices, the method/system/computer-readable medium comprising:

- detecting a request to establish video communication between a first device and a second device (col. 5, l. 41-54; col. 6, l. 5-6; col. 8, l. 25-30; & Fig. 1);
- determining that the second device is not capable of displaying a video signal (col. 9, l. 23-33);
- establishing two-way audio communication between the first and second devices (col. 9, l. 23-29);
- capturing video signals generated by the first device during the two-way audio communication (col. 5, l. 33-40; col. 6, l. 1-12, 24-46; & col. 9, l. 12-23);
- in response to determining that the second device is not capable of displaying the captured video signals, caching the captured video signals for subsequent display after the two-way audio communication is concluded (the examiner notes that the

Art Unit: 2623

video signals of Bruno et al. are always stored for subsequent retrieval. The examiner interprets this as “caching the captured video signals for subsequent display” as currently claimed)(col. 5, l. 33-37);

Referring to claims **2, 22, and 42**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, further comprising capturing audio signals generated by the first and second devices during the two-way audio communication and caching the captured audio signals (col. 5, l. 33-40; col. 6, l. 1-12, 24-46; & col. 9, l. 12-23, 40-60).

Referring to claims **6, 7, 26, 27, 46, and 47**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 66, 68, and 70, respectively, wherein caching comprises transmitting the locator link to a user of the non-video-enabled device and the locator link is transmitted to the user via a messaging system (the examiner notes that pre-recorded conference information can be retrieved from a menu of options sent to the user via a voice response unit (VRU)(col. 9, l. 34-49).

Referring to claims **8, 28, and 48**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 65, 67, and 69, respectively, wherein the terminal comprises a display screen, the method further comprising displaying the video signals on the display screen of the terminal (col. 9, l. 55-57).

Referring to claims **9, 29, and 49**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 2, 22, and 42, respectively, further comprising:

Art Unit: 2623

receiving a request from a terminal to transmit the cached video and audio signals; retrieving the cached video and audio signals from a storage device; and transmitting the video and audio signals to the terminal (col. 5, l. 33-40; col. 6, l. 24-31; & col. 9, l. 18-23, 55-60).

Referring to claims **10, 30, and 50**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 9, 29, and 49, respectively, wherein the terminal comprises a display screen and a speaker (col. 5, l. 12-19), the method/system/computer-readable medium further comprising:

- displaying the video signals on the display screen of the terminal (col. 9, l. 55-57);
and
- synchronously outputting the audio signals on the speaker of the terminal (col. 9, l. 18-23).

Referring to claims **11, 31, and 51**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, wherein caching comprises encoding the video signals in a compressed format; and storing the encoded video signals in a storage device (col. 8, l. 20-67 & col. 9, l. 1-11).

Referring to claims **12, 32, and 52**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 11, 31, and 51, respectively, wherein the compressed format comprises a form of predictive coding (the examiner notes that in content-based sampling, the number of samples to be taken is dependent on the current amount and frequency of movement at the workstation)(col. 8, l. 61-67 & col. 9, l. 1-2).

Art Unit: 2623

Referring to claims **14, 34, and 54**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, wherein the first device comprises a camera for capturing video signals (col. 5, l. 17-18).

Referring to claims **15, 35, and 55**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, wherein the first device is selected from the group consisting of a video-enabled telephone, a video-enabled cellular telephone, a video-enabled personal computer (col. 5, l. 12-18), a video-enabled interactive television (ITV) system, and a video-enabled personal digital assistant (PDA).

NOTE: The USPTO considers the applicant's "selected from the group consisting of" language to be anticipated by any reference containing any of the subsequent corresponding elements.

Referring to claims **16, 36, and 56**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, wherein the second device is selected from the group consisting of a non-video-enabled telephone (col. 9, l. 23-33), a non-video-enabled cellular telephone, a non-video-enabled personal computer, a non-video-enabled interactive television (ITV) system, and a non-video-enabled personal digital assistant (PDA).

NOTE: The USPTO considers the applicant's "selected from the group consisting of" language to be anticipated by any reference containing any of the subsequent corresponding elements.

Referring to claims **17, 37, and 57**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, wherein the video signals are cached by a server (control unit 30, multipoint control unit (MCU) 26, and digital computer 32) coupled to the first and second devices by at least one network (col. 5, l. 33-40 & Fig. 1).

Referring to claims **18, 38, and 58**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 17, 37, and 57, respectively, wherein the at least one network comprises at least one of a cable television network, a direct satellite broadcast (DBS) network, a wide-area network (WAN), a local-area network (LAN), a telephone network (col. 9, l. 23-27), and the Internet.

NOTE: The USPTO considers the applicant's "at least one of" language to be anticipated by any reference containing any of the subsequent corresponding elements.

Referring to claims **19, 39, and 59**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 17, 37, and 57, respectively, wherein the server is located within a broadcast center associated with the at least one network (the examiner notes that the MCU displays the video of the loudest speaking user/conferee on each of the other users' workstations. Since all of the other users receive the same video, the examiner interprets the MCU, digital computer, and control unit to be a broadcast center associated with the network)(col. 4, l. 67).

Referring to claims **20, 40, and 60**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, wherein the video signals are cached within the second device (the examiner interprets the second device to include the voice-only telephone 34, the voice response unit (VRU) 38, and the digital computer 32. See rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph above)(Fig. 1).

Referring to claims **65-70**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 1, 21, and 41, respectively, further comprising:

- receiving a request, comprising a locator link indicating a stored location of the cached video signals) from a terminal to transmit the cached video signals (the

examiner notes that an accessor retrieves a recorded video segment from a previously recorded conference by way of a variety of categories. The examiner further notes that in retrieving a particular video segment, the accessor is inherently indicating a stored location of the video segment)(col. 6, l. 9-12, 24-31, 39-46 & col. 9, l. 12-23, 40-60);

- retrieving the cached video signals from a storage device (col. 9, l. 12-23, 40-60); and
- transmitting the video signals to the terminal (col. 9, l. 40-60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims **5, 25, 45** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruno et al. in view of Milewski et al.

Referring to claims **5, 25, and 45**, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 66, 68, and 70, respectively. Bruno et al. further discloses recording and indexing the participants of and data exchanged or transmitted during a multimedia conference, such as a videoconference (col. 3, l. 19-24, 35-40; col. 5, l. 33-40; & col. 6, l. 1-12, 24-31). Bruno et al. does not disclose that the locator link comprises a Universal Resource Locator (URL). Milewski et al. discloses generating URLs for each segment of an archived video. The viewer uses the URL to access the archived video at particular point of interest in the

Art Unit: 2623

future (col. 2, l. 1-19). The user requests a URL for future access of the video with a telephone or PDA (col. 6, l. 50-63 & col. 7, l. 1-6). A server then sends the URL of the archived program to the user's PC (for example, by electronic mail (e-mail)), so that the archived video can be retrieved by the user in the future)(col. 4, l. 56-61 & 12-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the archived videoconference retrieval system of Bruno et al. to include using a URL to retrieve the video signals, such as that taught by Milewski et al. in order to allow bookmarking archived items of interest for future reference purposes (Milewski et al. col. 1, l. 50-52).

3. Claims 13, 33, 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruno et al.

Referring to claims 13, 33, and 53, Bruno et al. discloses the method/system/computer-readable medium of claims 11, 31, and 51, respectively. Bruno et al. further discloses sampling and compressing video signals using content-based sampling methods and storing the video signals in a memory (col. 8, l. 65-67 & col. 9, l. 18-23). Bruno et al. does not disclose that the storage device is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic storage device, an optical storage device, and a random access memory (RAM). Applicant's failure to adequately traverse the Examiner's taking of Official Notice (that it is notoriously well known in the prior art to store compressed video in a magnetic storage device) in the last Office Action is taken as an admission of the fact(s) noticed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the storage of Bruno et al. to include storing the compressed video on a magnetic storage device, such as that taught by the admitted prior art in order to provide more memory storage space at a low cost.

NOTE: The USPTO considers the applicant's "selected from the group consisting of" language to be anticipated by any reference containing any of the subsequent corresponding elements.

4. Claims **61, 62, 64** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruno et al. in view of Schultheiss.

Referring to claims **61, 62, and 64**, Bruno et al. discloses a method/system for enabling communication between an audio/video conferencing workstation terminal and non-video-enabled communication device, the method comprising:

- detecting a request to establish video communication between the audio/video conferencing workstation and the non-video-enabled communication device (col. 5, l. 41-54; col. 6, l. 5-6; col. 8, l. 30-25; & Fig. 1);
- determining that the non-video-enabled communication device is not capable of displaying a video signal (col. 9, l. 23-33);
- establishing two-way audio communication between the audio/video conferencing workstation and the non-video-enabled communication device (col. 9, l. 23-29);
- capturing video and audio signals generated by the audio/video conferencing workstation during the two-way audio communication (col. 5, l. 33-40; col. 6, l. 1-12, 24-46; & col. 9, l. 12-23);
- in response to determining that the non-video-enabled communication device is not capable of displaying the captured video signals, caching the captured video and audio signals within a storage device for subsequent display and playback after the two-way audio communication is concluded (the examiner notes that the video

signals of Bruno et al. are always stored for subsequent retrieval. The examiner interprets this as “caching the captured video signals for subsequent display” as currently claimed)(col. 5, l. 33-37);

- receiving a request from a terminal to transmit the cached video and audio signals, (the examiner notes that an accessor retrieves a recorded video segment from a previously recorded conference by way of a variety of categories (col. 6, l. 9-12, 24-31, 39-46 & col. 9, l. 12-23, 40-60);
- retrieving the cached video and audio signals from the storage device (col. 9, l. 12-23, 40-60); and
- transmitting the video and audio signals to the terminal for display and playback thereon (col. 9, l. 40-60).

Bruno et al. does not disclose that the audio/video conferencing workstation terminal be an interactive television system. Schultheiss discloses a personal computer that is used to relay audio and video telephone communications between external telephone networks and a television (col. 1, l. 43-50 & col. 2, l. 12-15). A television interface unit includes a video camera and a microphone, which are used to produce a video telephone signal (col. 2, l. 48-50).

Schultheiss further discloses allows a user to participate in audio or video conferences (col. 4, l. 36-38; col. 7, l. 64-67; & col. 8, l. 1-4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the audio/video conferencing workstation terminal of Bruno et al. to be a television video telephone system, such as that taught by Schultheiss in order to allow participation in a video conference from a device at which individual and family gatherings often occur (Schultheiss col. 1, l. 55-59 & col. 7, l. 64-67).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Van Handel whose telephone number is 571-272-5968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:30pm Mon.-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2623

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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